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position of woman. As a picture of what is going on in France, this book will be welcome to a wide circle of readers.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Wisconsin.

Dodd, Agnes F. *History of Money in the British Empire and the United States.* Pp. xiv, 356. Price, \$1.60. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1911.

The excuse for writing this book is to supply in compact and convenient form for students and general readers the essential facts and the more important lines of development that have been involved in the process of securing an adequate currency in English-speaking countries. There is no pretense at original treatment. Secondary sources are freely used. The manner of presentation is clear and interesting. One-half of the space is devoted to England, one-third to America, and the remainder to parts of the British Empire other than England.

Several early chapters deal with English coinage in law and in practice from the earliest times to the final and permanent adoption of the gold standard by the act of 1816. Bimetallism was introduced in the thirteenth century and experience through five centuries affords convincing proof that many ills relating to currency and industry were due to the impossibility of operating satisfactorily a bimetallic system. Incessant variation of the mint ratio between gold and silver and frequent debasement of coins by act of sovereign power were due either to ignorance of monetary principles or to a desire to improve the currency, and not, with few exceptions, to a scheme for increasing the revenues of the king. In this struggle to maintain a currency supply, the part played by the mercantile theory and by changes in price-levels are also given due prominence. The chapters on the development of banking in England deal largely with note issues. Such topics as the banking functions performed by goldsmiths, price-levels, crises, Peel's Act of 1844, the problem of an adequate bank reserve, are well handled.

The American account is executed in the same elementary, yet clear and pleasing manner which characterizes that of the British. The struggle of the colonists to secure an efficient medium and standard, the paper money experiments of the Revolutionary and the Civil War periods, wild-cat banking, the silver controversy, and note-issue under the National Banking System are passed in review. Since several brief histories of American experience are available, this part of the volume does not meet a real need.

The book is not free from errors. Among them are: The bold statement of Gresham's law (*e. g.* p. 23), which makes it untrue; the overworking of the principle of compensatory action in a bimetallic system whereby not only one but both of the precious metals are caused simultaneously, it is claimed, to flow into England (p. 52); the assertion (p. 260) that the decimal system was not in use in the American monetary system until after the Civil War; several minor errors, chiefly relating to dates, in the pages on the greenbacks. There are over one hundred direct quotations, but, in amateurish

fashion, there is in every instance a failure to cite the exact reference. While it is interesting to have monetary changes brought into causal relationship with economic, industrial and political development, one gets the impression that our author gives, at times, undue weight to the influence of those changes.

DON C. BARRETT.

Haverford College.

Forman, S. E. *The American Republic.* Pp. xviii, 359. Price, \$1.10. New York: Century Company, 1911.

This is a textbook in civics, intended especially for use in high schools, academies and normal schools, and is an abridgment of the author's earlier "Advanced Civics." The plan of the larger book has been retained. Part I is a general treatment of the nature of the state and of government, of democracy, liberty, representation, federalism, political parties and the separation of powers. Part II deals with the organization of American government, considering the national, commonwealth, and local government in order. Part III considers the functions of government, international, commercial, financial, public welfare, etc.

The treatment is accurate, clear, and up-to-date; but the space allotted to municipal government and problems seems inadequate, the discussion of government activities will scarcely give immature students a clear conception of the division of function among federal, commonwealth, and local agents, and the two-page outline of party history (pp. 60-61) should either be expanded or omitted. A more fundamental objection may be urged against the general plan of the volume. For advanced students a preliminary survey of general political theory may properly precede the specific study of actual government, but beginners are likely to be confused by the eighty-four pages of "essential principles" with which the author introduces his subject. The experience of the reviewer leads him to believe that students should have some knowledge of the concrete facts of actual government before they are ready for broad generalizations. The book would be better adapted to the purpose intended if the author had narrowed the field rather than condensed the treatment of his earlier volume. As it is, too many topics are discussed too briefly.

RAYMOND GARFIELD GETTELL.

Trinity College.

Groat, George G. *Attitude of American Courts in Labor Cases.* Pp. ix, 400. Price, \$3.00. New York: Columbia University, 1911.

This volume is a contribution to the discussion of the labor question from the standpoint of a sociologist, the material used being the opinions of the courts in their consideration of questions of the organized activities of workmen and of legislative regulation of the conditions of employment. An avowed purpose of the author is to present contrasting opinions, which is effectively done; a